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Letter from Fred Carleton to Ann Hopkins, May 14, 1993

Fred Carleton

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Ann Hopkins, Partner
Price Waterhouse

5/14/93

Dear Ms Hopkins,

I was in the audience last night at "Women in Charge" and was really overwhelmed by the sparkling intelligence, wit and personality which all of you displayed. "Women in Charge" was the right title. All of you showed leadership and that is what will bring women along in the workplace. As a member of the Tuck Class of '54 (no women in that one!) I've got some perspective on the rising status of women.

Women's progress seems to be moving at about the right rate. That may be a frustration for some very qualified women who aren't moving fast enough, but if it moves much faster it will set off severe tensions and psychiatric problems among the men.

It's exhilarating to be on the way up, overcoming obstacles to getting ahead - more fun than defending the turf which men are likely to do. I worry a bit about the man's role and his self esteem. Ms Tutwiler made a good point about the importance of women in government. It wouldn't run without them. I would go even farther to say that most of the world's work can be better done by women. Their concentration, attention to detail and follow up all seem to be better. Please be patient with us.

I marvel at how well spoken and quick thinking all of you were (and are!). I felt a real rapport between all of you and between you and the audience.

And you're all young (I consider 50 young!) with many years left to promote your influence and ideas. I will be following your careers and pronouncements with interest.

Best Wishes

Fred Carleton T'54

